

REMARKS**Status of Related Applications**

The following US, foreign, and international patent applications are or may be considered to be related to the application herein. Relevant documents pertaining to such cases are being provided or have been provided in one or more separately-filed Information Disclosure Statements. The status of such applications, as currently understood by Applicant, is summarized in order to ensure that the Office is fully apprised of the current state thereof. In the event the Office has any questions about the identified cases, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's representative at the number below.

Serial No.	Country	Status
2006-541762	Japan	Granted
0871404	Rep of Korea	Granted
200480039930.2	China	Registered
200810099973.X	China	Registered
3113/DELP/2006	India	Pending – in examination
04713831.8	EPO	Oral Proceedings
08168419.3	EPO	Pending – in examination
10177958.5	EPO	Pending - search report received
10177959.3	EPO	Pending - search report received
07100038.7	Hong Kong	Pending – awaiting allowance in EPO
200603555-4	Singapore	Pending – awaiting allowance in US or EPO
200603555-4	Singapore	Pending – examination requested
2,548,598	Canada	Pending – in examination
2,727,763	Canada	Pending (divisional of 2,548,598) – not yet examined
TBA	Canada	Pending (divisional of 2,548,598) – not yet examined
CA2004/000263	PCT	Expired (NPE entered as above)

Summary of Interviews

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his time and insight during the interviews conducted with Applicant's representative Matthew Marquardt by telephone on 23 February 2011 and 3 March 2011. All of the claims were discussed in view of Dam Nielsen (US 2006-0084450). It was agreed that the claims as presented distinguish Dam Nielsen.

Amendment

Claims 52, 58, 64, and 70 are amended by this response. Support for the amendment may be found throughout the specification as originally filed, including the Figures and the claims; and in particular at paragraphs [0025], [0036], [0040], [0042], and [0043] – [0052], and in Figures 6 – 8.

No new matter is added by the amendment.

Remarks

Applicant notes that substantially identical claims are granted in Japan. A copy of the claims allowed in Japan has previously been submitted by IDS.

The claims as presented distinguish the prior art of record, and particularly the Dam Nielsen reference (US 2006-0084450), at least through recitation of numeric character identifiers in the case of claims 52 – 75, and text identifiers in claims 76 – 111. Dam Nielsen teaches the use of images ("icons" 716, 717, etc.):

a personalized icon [e.g., 716, 717], which the user has previously associated with a particular sender, will be displayed and indicate to the user who the sender is.

(See for example Dam Nielsen paragraph [0013], and figures 3 - 7.)

By contrast, Applicant's claims recite numeric characters and text identifiers such as those shown at 400, 604, 802, 804 in Applicant's figures 4 – 8, which, as will be understood by those skilled in the relevant arts:

- consume significantly less device memory and local storage space on a communications device than graphical or other image icons such as those taught by Dam Nielsen;
- consume significantly less processing resources, including time and power, than graphical or other image icons such as those taught by Dam Nielsen;
- can communicate significantly more information in significantly less display space than is possible using the solution taught by Dam Nielsen. This can be particularly important for small-screen devices such as wireless handheld devices, in which screen space is notoriously precious.
- can in at least some cases be either read directly or derived from data received by the mobile device or other communication system 102, 202, and therefore need not be “previously associated with a particular sender” by the user, and stored on the user’s device, as required by Dam Nielsen (paragraph [0013]); and
- therefore can require significantly less (or no) user interaction, with associated loss of time and convenience, than required by Dam Nielsen, as manual association of images with correspondents can be eliminated.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as presented are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the cited references.

Disclaimer of Prior Statements and Amendments

Applicant intends that the claims as presented herein be interpreted under the ordinary interpretation understood in the art. Accordingly Applicant expressly rescinds, and no longer intends that the claims be limited by, any assertions, statements, arguments, amendments or other actions previously made in this patent application, and/or any application whose file history is available for use in interpreting any patent issuing on this application, that might be taken to be a surrender or disclaimer of any subject matter from the scope of any claim. No such assertion, statement, argument, amendment or other action in this application or in any such available application should be taken as a surrender or disclaimer from, and may not be used to interpret, any claim of this patent, or any claim of any patent to which such applications' file histories may be pertinent.

Applicant intends, and expressly requests, that the Application be presented and examined *de novo*. Accordingly, Applicant urges the Examiner to make a thorough and diligent search of the prior art with respect to each and every claim presented herein. Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider any previous surrender, disclaimer or characterization of claims, and that he reconsider any prior art that may have been avoided or intended to be avoided by such surrender, disclaimer or characterization.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that the claims, as presented, are in condition for immediate allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and immediate allowance of the claims.

Applicant believes that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper. In the event that the office determines that any further fee is due, Appellant requests that such fee be charged to its Deposit Account No. 195113.

Applicant is concerned to advance this application as quickly as is reasonably possible. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that, in the event the Examiner has any further questions about this application, the Examiner call Applicant's attorney at the number provided below.

Dated: 4 March 2011

Respectfully submitted,



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